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MAHATHIR-UMNO
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KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 8 (BERNAMA) -- THE FATE OF THE MALAY RACE, RELIGION AND THE NATION WILL CONTINUE TO BE SAFEGUARDED SO LONG AS UMNO STRUGGLES FOR THE MALAYS AND GETS THEIR STRONG SUPPORT, UMNO PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID.

HE SAID UMNO, BEING THE POLITICAL PARTY WITH THE BIGGEST MEMBERSHIP WHICH IS STILL INCREASING, WAS THE MOST RESPECTED PARTY IN MALAYSIA NOW AND WOULD REMAIN SO IN THE FUTURE.

HE SAID THIS IN HIS WELCOMING MESSAGE IN THE SOUVENIR PROGRAMME FOR THE 43RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF UMNO TO BE HELD AT THE ISTANA BESAR GROUNDS IN JOHOR BAHRU ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS THE PRIME MINISTER, SAID UMNO WAS NOT FREE FROM CHALLENGES BUT THESE HAD BEEN OVERCOME WITH THE PRAYERS AND SUPPORT OF MEMBERS WHO LOVED THE PARTY.

HE SAID UMNO WAS FORMED 43 YEARS AGO OUT OF THE REALISATION FOR THE MALAYS TO UNITE AND OPPOSE THE COLONIALISTS AND MALAYAN UNION PROPOSAL AS WELL AS TO FIGHT FOR THE COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE.

+THE MALAY UNITY THEN IN STRUGGLING FOR THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF THE RELIGION, RACE AND NATION HAD GIVEN THE MALAYS THE STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO MAKE ANY SACRIFICES FOR THE SAKE OF ACHIEVING THEIR NOBLE AIMS,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE

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HE SAID: +THE STRONG WILL HAD MADE IT EASIER FOR THE SACRIFICES AND THE SUCCESS ACHIEVED BELONGS TO ALL OF US. SUCH IS THE BLESSING FOR THE MALAYS.+

IN HIS MESSAGE, UMNO DEPUTY PRESIDENT GHAFAR BABA SAID THE SUCCESS OF UMNO WAS ACHIEVED THROUGH NOT ONLY THE CONSENSUS EXISTING AMONG THE MALAYS BUT ALL THE RACES IN THE COUNTRY.

ENCIK GHAFAR, WHO IS THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, SAID THE COUNTRY WOULD BE SAFE AND DEVELOPMENT COULD BE INTENSIFIED IF THIS UNITY COULD BE MAINTAINED.

UMNO WOULD CONTINUE WITH ITS STRUGGLE TO MAKE MALAYSIA MORE WELL KNOWN INTERNATIONALLY IN ALL FIELDS, HE SAID.

HE CALLED FOR A RENEWAL OF THE DETERMINATION TO STRENGTHEN UMNO SO THAT MALAYSIA WOULD CONTINUE TO BE SAFE AND PROGRESSIVE. --

BERNAMA

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